

From: [Paul Choisser](#)
To: Scoping_Delta_Plan@Delta_Council
Subject: Public Comments and the meeting presentations for the Notice of Preparation Scoping Session for the Propose Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed Delta Plan
Date: Monday, January 24, 2011 12:20:08 PM

Honorable Delta Stewardship Council Members,

RE: Public Comments and the meeting presentations for the Notice of Preparation Scoping Session for the Propose Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Proposed Delta Plan

My name is Paul Choisser. I am a Concord resident, owner of PAC Environmental and Urban Land Use Planning Consulting Services, a Delta boater and a Delta fisherman. I spoke at the Delta Plan Notice of Preparation (NOP) Scoping Session for the Propose Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Delta Plan at a meeting held in Concord, CA on January 20, 2011. After having reviewed all of the publications provided to the public at that meeting I wanted to follow up initially with this brief suggestion for future meeting presentations. I am still preparing my written documentation of my comments, and a clarification of and expansion on my comments on the NOP and scoping session at that meeting as to what I perceive needs to be considered and expanded upon in the DEIR that is not fully desired in the materials provided,

As you may recall, or as possibly has occurred at other similar meetings, the Delta Stewardship Council presenters received a rather accusatory if not downright hostile response to an apparent public perception of what was being planned for the waters of the Delta (export, export, export) during a rather rancorous meeting and series of acrimonious comments by some members of the public. Additionally there appeared to be some rather meandering rambling comments from some members of the public that were not particularly germane to the topic at hand. There may be a way to remedy some of this and focus the meeting a little more acutely..

After reviewing all of the publications including the legislative mandates provided to the public at that meeting it became apparent to me that there was a misconception by some members of the public as to what is being planned, and what the process actually is. The principal cause of this and how this misconception could be dispelled in the future appeared to me to be the failure of the public to receive and consequently understand the three main objectives of the Delta Plan which appeared to be of concern to the public. **1) "Coequal"** does not mean equal distribution of the Delta's and mind you what it appeared as many considered to be Northern California's water resources. In fact, the objectives, as identified in the brochures and legislative mandate, are to, and I'll paraphrase here, to re-establish, **restore and develop a program to protect the ecological habitat values of the Delta.** **2)** Secondly, the coequal goal of the Delta Plan is to **provide for a more reliable water supply for California.** While these objectives appear to be inconsistent without an explanation, that was apparently overlooked or not readily apparent in the presentation, they are not necessarily incompatible. **3)** The third element of this **"Holy Trinity"** that makes them compatible and brings them together is that it is the policy of the State to **"reduce reliance on (water from) the Delta in meeting California's future water supply needs..."**(although this component is not evident in p.34 PART 4 Comprehensive Delta Planning, Chapter 1 The Delta Plan and therefore does not appear to be proposed to be codified in the Delta Plan). This third element appears to and should alleviate fears about what the Delta Plan will and will not accomplish (although its full ramifications and binding adherence to its principals is not fully evident in the legislation as I reviewed it). If this were to be emphasized in the initial presentation and reiterated throughout the meeting when to issue of "future" water exports came up it might provide for a more productive meeting.

I did really appreciate the Delta Stewardship Council members amenability to accommodate public comments and the public's positions from a ranging and wide variety of perspectives and am learning a great deal about this important execution of this State legislative mandate regarding the Delta. As I indicated above, I am still preparing my written documentation, a clarification of and expansion on my comments on the NOP and scoping session and what I perceive needs to be considered and

expanded upon in the DEIR.

I thank the Delta Stewardship Council and staff, all of you, for coming to Concord (bringing your "traveling Delta Plan roadshow") and allowing our part of the Bay Area/Northern California Delta Region residents to participate in the process. Additionally, I appreciate the Delta Stewardship Council having provided the public with such a comprehensive package of printed materials which allows, if one takes and has the time to review all of the materials, a fairly thorough understanding of the process and objectives of the Delta Plan. I know spent the entire weekend reviewing the materials and now feel I have a fairly comprehensive understanding of the issues, legislative mandate, objectives and process.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Paul Choisser

**PAC Environmental and Urban Land Use Planning Consulting Services
1741 Lynwood Drive
Concord, CA 94519-1210
pacchoisser@yahoo.com**